2 ***Prepayment of IBRD*** Loans: Borrowers have the choice to prepay, fully or partially, the amounts they owe on their IBRD loans. The IBRD may charge a prepayment premium.

IBRD Contingent Loans - the Deferred Drawdown Option for Development Policy Loans (DPL DDO) and the Catastrophic Risk (CAT) DDO carry the same pricing and all embedded risk management options as the IBRD Flexible Loan.

Front-end Fee Policy on IBRD Loans

1. For all IBRD loan commitments whose invitation to negotiate is issued on or after July 31, 1998, and signed prior to September 27, 2007, a front-end fee of 100 basis points will be charged, payable on the loan's Effective Date. A front-end fee of 25 basis points will be charged on IBRD loan commitments signed on or after September 27, 2007.
2. In the event of loan cancellation, adjustments to the front-end fee will be handled as follows:
   - If the loan is fully cancelled prior to the loan's Effective Date, no front-end fee will be charged.
   - If the loan is partially cancelled prior to its Effective Date, the amount of the front-end fee payable will be reduced on a pro rata basis and the adjusted front-end fee will be payable to the Bank upon the loan's Effective Date.
   - If the loan is partially or fully cancelled on or after the loan's Effective Date, no adjustment to the front-end fee will be made. This will apply equally to loans comprised of tranches: if, for example, a tranche were cancelled after the Effective Date, no portion of the front-end fee would be refunded to the borrower.

National Water Projects

708. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of national water projects;

(b) the criteria fixed to declare national projects;

(c) in what manner Government would give the share of fund to each project; and

(d) in what manner the water would be distributed among the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (d) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 7th February 2008 has approved proposal of the Ministry of Water Resources on Implementation of National Projects with central assistance of 90% of the eligible cost of the project as per guidelines of scheme of National Projects. A new project fulfilling the following criteria is eligible for consideration for inclusion in the scheme of National project with the approval of the Union Cabinet:

1. International projects where usage of water in India is required by a treaty or where planning and early completion of the project is necessary in the interest of the country.

2. Inter-State projects which are dragging on due to non-resolution of Inter-State issues relating to sharing of costs, rehabilitation, aspects of power production etc., including river interlinking projects.

3. Inter-State projects with additional potential of more than 2,00,000 hectare (ha) and with no dispute regarding sharing of water and where hydrology is established.

The scheme of implementation of National Projects has come into effect from 26th February 2009 after issue of guidelines by the Ministry of Water Resources. The projects included under the National Projects category are expected to submit their funding requirements for year wise assessment of finances. So far, grant amounting to Rs.450 crore has been released to Gosikhurd National Projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme(AIBP). Distribution of water among the States is not governed under the scheme of National Projects.

Water Shortage

709. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of water bodies like ponds, lagoons, rivers, lakes and reservoirs in the country are drying up causing acute water shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures Government is taking or proposing to take to rejuvenate these water bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) As per the third Minor Irrigation Census 2001, 0.85 lakh out of 5.57 lakh tanks and storages in the country are not in use.

(c) The Government of India sanctioned a pilot scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies during X Plan with an outlay of Rs.300 crore. The Government has further approved a programme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies with an outlay of Rs.10,000 crore for XI Plan. The programme covers all states of the country and aims at improvement of water bodies, improvement of catchment areas of tank commands, increase in storage capacity of water bodies, ground water recharge, improvement in agriculture and increased availability of drinking water.

Preparation for 35th National Games

710. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated expense for the 35th National Games scheduled to be held in Kerala in May, 2010;